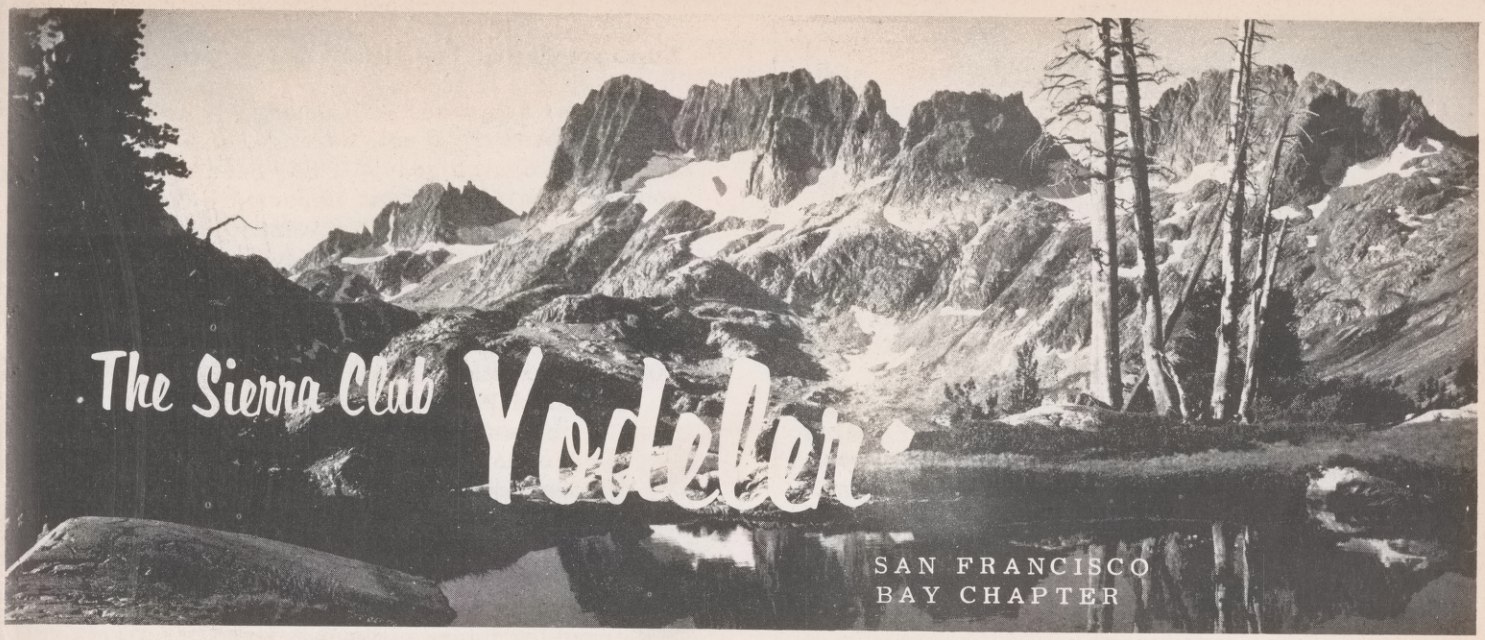

Volume XX | September 16, 1958 | Number 13

Congressional Score on Conservation

The score is not entirely as we should have liked it, but on the whole the 85th Congress did fairly well for conservation. We can chalk up several counts on the favorable side and a couple of outright disappointments, and recognize that another disappointment can really be considered as a continuing opportunity.

Continuing Challenge

The Wilderness Bill did not pass. It got far enough, though, to encourage us, and we believe that strong work now may help carry it through the next Congress.

What happened was this: the amended bill, S. 4028 (a "clean" bill incorporating changes to eliminate objections of various bureaus concerned) was neither passed nor defeated, but in effect referred by Congressional committee to the citizens of the United States. (We can hope that a new bill will be introduced early in the 86th Congress.) Interim public hearings before the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee in four western cities are announced for November. These hearings, probably looked upon by opponents of the legislation as their opportunity to round up more objections, should be taken by supporters of the bill as an opportunity to point out how the objections either are erroneous or irrelevant or are outweighed by the total public good. Further, we must recognize that the hearings are the opportunity for individuals as well as organizations to tell why they favor the bill.

The hearing schedule includes San Francisco on November 10 (Bend, 11/7; Salt Lake City, 11/12; Albuquerque, 11/14). The San Francisco hearing is in effect the hearing for all of California and Nevada and much of Arizona. It is to be hoped that conservation organizations will have strong representation at all the meetings (members of other groups should

(Continued on Page 2)

The New Members Meeting will be October 15, not October 1 as stated in the Schedule. Still Room 360, 220 Bush Street, S. F. at 8.

Tell your friends, particularly your new member friends. Note that seeing one item like this is easily worth the entire cost of a Yodeler subscription.

Rock Climbing Section

On the July 4 weekend, the section climbed in the Sawtooth Ridge area in northern Yosemite. About 20 Bay Chapter members were there in addition to a party from Southern California and two climbers from Sacramento.

After considerable hunting around in the upper Horse Creek basin, a campsite was selected and the mosquitoes went to work. We are convinced the mosquitoes read the Sierra Club schedules to see when and where the trips are to be held.

The first evening at high camp, the hardy band of mountaineers were greeted by a storm, but the weather cleared the following day. The main climbing targets were the Matterhorn Peak, Dragtooth, Doodad, and the Three Teeth. The weekend was topped off by some practice snow belaying and glissade races.

Over the Labor Day weekend about 30 persons packed in to Budd Lake to camp. On Saturday, most of the group swarmed over Cathedral Peak, four different routes being climbed simultaneously. Dick Long led a successful ascent on Bob Hill's "Panic Pinnacle." The summit of Eichorn's Pinnacle was trod upon by eight pairs of feet that day.

The next day Matthes Crest was the prime target, with Echo Peak the No. 2 favorite. John Schonle and Greg McGibbon assaulted the spectacular north face of Echo Ridge, only to find one pitch of roped climbing, but you should hear John's description of that pitch. The Cockscomb and Unicorn Peaks were also hosts to several parties. The weather and the camping was perfect. The mosquitoes were evidently still at the Sawtooth Ridge.

Don't forget the Section Meeting on October 10, a short meeting followed by slides and movies. See the Schedule for details.

Famous last words in Rock Climbing history: "How do we get down from here?"

--Carl and Helen Weisner

Sierra Club Yodeler

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NEXT DEADLINE: OCTOBER 6

VOLUME XX, NO. 13 September 15, 1958

Conservation (Continued)

make sure that their officers are aware of the urgency). In addition, there ought to be many private citizens, speaking on behalf of themselves and other private citizens (rather than for any specific group), to emphasize the interest of the general public in wilderness legislation. The expression of wide public interest is of the greatest importance.

Time and place are not yet announced, but in the meantime everyone who can arrange to appear should write to the Hon. James E. Murray, Chairman, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Senate Office Building, Washington 25, D.C., requesting the opportunity to present testimony and to have that testimony made a part of the hearing record. (Presumably it will also be possible for those unable to attend the hearing to address written statements to the committee, but application to be heard should be made now.) Speak up, friends!

On the Credit Side

Good news: passage of two bills that should help preserve what hasn't already been swallowed up by the "progress of civilization." One establishes the President's Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission, and gives us hope that the urgency of present and future needs for recreational land use--of all degrees from urban breathing space to actual wilderness--may be recognized in intelligent planing. The other, a bill introduced by Clair Engle, provides for acquisition of land at El Portal for National Park Service use. This will permit eventual uncluttering of the floor of Yosemite Valley by moving a number of administrative and business activities to the new site.

Loss Entry

One of the serious disappointments was that the disputed Bruce's Eddy and Penny Cliff dams on the Clearwater were at the last minute put back into the omnibus Rivers and Harbors Appropriations bill, although they had been deleted from an earlier version of the bill. This opens the way for "detailed study," which isn't quite the same thing as construction, but is a big step closer to it.

Support Grows For North Cascades

Whoever has seen "Wilderness Alps of Stehekin" (and who hasn't? If not, arrange for a showing for your club, church group, PTA, Scouts, or what have you!) is convinced of the importance of keeping the North Cascades area in its present state. In recognition of the inability, under law, of the Forest Service to provide protection for gateway areas as well as for the wilderness core of the Glacier Peak area, these organizations have taken action advocating park status for the North Cascades:

National Parks Association
North Cascades Conservation Council
Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs
Recreation Unlimited
Sierra Club

We hope that other organizations will soon add their support to this movement--much help from many sources is needed if this superb area is to be preserved for future citizens.

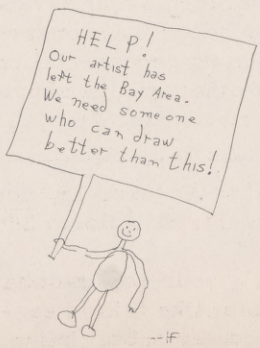
--Charlotte Mauk

Mountainears Hear

Cicely Christy (good ol' CMC) our conservation editor, has a fairly good excuse for not appearing this issue. From Thistlehorst, Kent, England, she writes "Hello and good luck for the first of the Yodelers of the Fall season .....out of 17 days in Norway and Denmark we had 13 days of sunny weather and wonderful views--but in England last week I managed to be in the worst part of the worst thunderstorm and flood they have had for years. Quite exciting but somewhat damp. On to Switzerland next week for a few days there before home and all that waiting mail and work."

Could be worse but still bad enough dept.: Florence Richmond, renowned among hiking circles for her terrific prowess along those lines, is in the Fresno Community Hospital facing a lengthy recuperation from a severely smashed leg. The way we heard it, she didn't quite make it crossing a freeway on foot, and her shoe got thrown off about 200 feet. The hit-run driver has been caught and is in plenty of trouble.

Along happier lines--Joan and Ken Ferguson have done it again! Their Melissa Marie arrived June 22. The poor baby is a native Kwajaleinian! Another such happy event--a well-known Sierran writes us, "Barbara (Miller) and Tracy Morton welcomed their first skier and knapsacker on August 6th. His name is Louis and he'll be living in San Jose with Mom and Dad. Leave my name out of this! signed by Name Deleted." Wonder why Deleted doesn't want his (or her) name published---is the Yodeler notorious or something? --HF



Should have sense (of humor) and some familiarity with club activities.

CTL News

Here it is fall again, with another ski season just around the corner. This summer the work parties have done much to improve the lodge.

The men's lower dorm has been converted into family rooms (which have been fully occupied all summer); the leach lines are being extended; the foundation for the extension of the northwest corner is about ready to pour; despite all the activity there are both inside and outside jobs for those who wish to participate on work party. Remember, if the lodge is as busy this winter as it was last, you'll need work party priority for all of the holiday weekends.

People you know: Herb and Thelma Rubin announced the arrival of their son, David, in early June; the Morton's, Tracy and Barbara, likewise added a son, Louis, to the deduction column of their income tax return, in early August. Jerry Fisher will be our tow operator this winter (he's been assistant manager this summer); Barbara Chestnut (the harried parents' friend) held forth as baby-sitter and general cheerer-upper during the last three months.

We now have a volleyball court and garden in the front yard.

The Bay Area Ski Federation held its annual summer carnival on Donner Lake August 16 and 17. Many hardy souls enjoyed a couple of days of water skiing in the rain. It was a bring-your-own-food affair. The next meeting will be September 29, in the Sheraton-Palace Hotel. The Sierra Club is a member of the Federation. -- Roberta Codis

River Touring Section

Four of us from the Bay Area, plus a newcomer from Santa Rosa, went up to the American River over Labor Day. The river was really low. For every half mile we were able to paddle down, we had to walk and line our boats down the same distance.

After about four hours of this we were slightly weary. Elaine Barron decided enough was enough and rode down several shallows on her air mattress, pulling her kayak along.

We spent the next day in and out of the water and became thoroughly water soaked. Didn't even find any gold, which we tried to pan.

Our best run of the weekend was the short and fast one on the upper Mokelumne before we made the trip home.

At our monthly meetings we have been seeing wonderful movies of the Salmon River trips, and reliving the fun of these trips. Those of you who have slides and good movies and have not yet shown them, why not let us see them? Get in touch with Bryce Whitmore if you can show them at our October 14 meeting.

The new chairman will be elected at the October 14 meeting. Be prepared to choose the person you think best qualified for this position.

--Elinor Ridge

Headwaters of the Kern Knapsack Trip July 19-27

On Saturday, July 19, eight knapsackers left Onion Valley and hiked over Kearsarge Pass in perfect weather to meet the packer with our supplies at Vidette Meadow.

The next day while we were fording Bubbs Creek at the East Creek trail, a man appeared on the far stream bank, jumping up and down, slapping his thighs, and roaring with laughter at us. After we crossed, he advised us that 100 yards upstream there was a big log on which to cross, which no one had been aware of. However, we agreed that it was more fun wading.

After setting up camp at East Lake four of us visited Lake Reflection. The view from the lower end of the lake came up to all expectations and was ample reward for the hike to the lake.

Later in the week we went over Lucy's Foot Pass, which we all agreed was Class 2 near the top. The weather was very kind to us. As we approached the pass, the fog which had blanketed everything that day suddenly lifted and didn't close in again till just after we got over the top.

On the way to Milestone Creek a snow storm struck, so we spent an hour or so under a tarp till the weather permitted travelling again. We had a wonderful view of Milestone Peak shrouded in rain clouds.

The rest of the trip was taken up by a visit to Diamond Mesa, near our only mosquito-free camp, the crossing of Foresters Pass which was blanketed by snow on the north, a climb of University Peak with its fine views, and the return to the cars, thus ending the first group-planned Club knapsack trip from the Los Angeles area. --Unsigned

For Sale

Large studio-living room, ample storage space, 35 foot glass wall with view across San Pablo Valley. One acre wooded hillside on Sobrante Ridge. Secluded location, private road, wilderness at your window. 20 minutes by freeway to Berkeley and Oakland. Designed and built by an architect for his own use. Price $9,000. Financing can be arranged. Additional acreage available. Herman Lichtman, BEacon 3-1785.

Lot at North End of Lake Tahoe. Size: half acre, with view of the lake. Location: approximately half mile from the lake and main highway. Lot #113 of the Tahoe Estates at Tahoe Vista, California. The neighborhood is zoned and restricted to the building of cabins and private homes. Price: $3750, or reasonable offer. For further information, contact Noel Springer, Jr., 3212 Thompson Ave., Alameda, at LAkehurst 3-8539 (evenings).

All Survive Deadman Knapsack Trip

Eleven men and one woman, Frieda Klundt of Sacramento, finished what was probably the toughest of the summer knapsack trips with only the normal amount of cuts and bruises. Trip leader Paul Grunland noted the individualistic tendencies of the group members, very evident in the choice of equipment, the substitution of imagination in cooking for time-tested Sierra Club recipes, and completely unrestrained comments on every phase of the trip.

Luckily for those members of the party who were not in top condition, the first day's route had to be changed. Paul had planned to have us blaze a trail up Roaring River from the South Fork of the Kings River. It might have required a little rock climbing, but fortunately the ranger mentioned the number of persons who had been lost or injured attempting to make the climb, and Paul changed to an easier route which required a car shuttle.

Our first evening was wet. The rainstorm diluted our soup while we drank it and formed a puddle around the campfire.

The next morning a fire started by lightning was discovered smoldering in the wet forest. Four members of the group had a more strenuous day than they had planned as they reported the fire and kept it under control.

Crossing swollen streams provided excitement and perhaps entertainment for the more sadistically inclined members of the party. Dion Leeds, senior student at Washington High on his first knapsack trip, won undisputed claim to first place in the comic dives. Since he did not have lug soles, the wet rocks seemed to become animate, and rotten logs which had supported others would crash into the cold water the moment Dion stepped aboard. However, he merely changed into dry shorts, tied his wet pants to his pack, and sloshed onward to his next icy plunge. Frieda Klundt was awarded second place after she was fished out of the creek in Deadman Canyon. Honorable mention goes to Stuart Gunn, Danville chemist, who also took an involuntary swim fully clothed while wearing his pack. Isaac Barshad, UC soil scientist, kept us in a state of anxiety as he teeted precariously on rocks and logs, but the expected belly flop never materialized.

The party climbed Coppermine Pass on the fourth day out, going up 3,300 feet to 12,330 feet and down into Cloud Canyon 4,400 feet over snow, rocks, and an occasional trail, for 12 miles.

Meals were delicious, even though the Jello and chocolate pudding was served as a drink at the beginning of the trip. George Mason, however, stabbed Paul Grunland's ego by making deprecating remarks about the food. In reference to the dried chili, for instance: "Who's putting pencil shavings into the hamburger?" At Lake Reflection a burro gave out a chorus of heehaws, provoking the following comment: "Someone is suffering convulsions after that meal."

(Continued next column)

Continued from Column 1

Actually, George was bitter because we kept throwing his dilapidated aluminum foil pie plate on to the garbage pile. Just before someone would stomp it into a small flat piece of metal so that it could be buried easily, George would rescue the remains.

Dave Paslin, on his first knapsack trip, did the cooks proud with his human garbage-can spirit.

On the fifth day the group climbed to South Guard Lake, 11,685 feet high and about 400 feet above timberline. The pile of firewood that will greet the eyes of the next visitor to the barren area was carried in knapsacks from the stunted lodgepoles and junipers on the slopes below the lake.

On Longley Pass we encountered a snow pack with a cornice, which made it impossible for a knapsacker to cross. After working around the edge of the cornice itself, those in the lead were considering whether the descent could be accomplished more safely if the hikers could rid themselves of their packs. John Clay decided to lower his pack gently onto the snow and see if it would slide to a safe stop at the bottom. The pack tore down the snow and was soon bouncing high in the air gathering velocity as it left moleskin, socks, underclothes, etc. scattered over the steep terrain. We decided to make an attempt to lower the packs in a different manner.

While chopping steps in the snow pack, Jim Hackler had a chance to test the theory of using a Sierra Club cup as a brake to slow one down while ricocheting down the side of a mountain of snow. It is amazing to observe the depth of the furrow which can be carved into the snow with the cup if the falling person is completely terrified. Oh well, it was easier to carve those steps from the bottom of the snow pack anyway.

The fifteen-pound weight limit made it necessary for Ian Begg to leave his bagpipes behind, but by the last evening everyone's musical taste had deteriorated to such an extent that he was asked to lead the singing. We all joined in with the chorus to the "Rock Climber's Song," shouting, "Gory, gory, halleluja; he ain't gonna climb no more!"

-- Jim Hackler

TCC Meeting September 28

Sierra Club members are invited to the Tamalpais Conservation Club's semi-annual meeting Sunday, September 28, at Bootjack Camp.

TCC president, Vivian L. Steevens, one of many Sierra Clubbers active in this group, is arranging a short program combining education and relaxation, to begin at 1:30. She has asked the State Division of Beaches and Parks for a speaker who will tell of the problems faced by officials in acquiring property in compliance with the million-dollar appropriation voted for extension of Mt. Tamalpais State Park. The entertainment will consist of songs by the Barry Mineah boys' choir of Mill Valley.

(Continued on Page 5)

Annual Southern Banquet

The Angeles Chapter proudly announces their annual dinner. If you can possibly be in LA on October 18 you will find it worth going to.

The Speaker will be Will Siri, club director, explorer, adventurer, and a real climber, and veteran of Peruvian and Himalayan expeditions.

Dress: for men, dark (or light) suits; for ladies, formals (or informals) and no one (hardly anyone, anyway) will be admitted in jeans.

The free list will consist of Will Siri, all others must pay $4.50 to Walt Heninger, 1442 Mt. Pleasant Street, Los Angeles 42, by October 14th. Discount of 50¢ on reservations on or before October 8.

Natural Science Field Ttip

On October 12 Dr. Paul Wilson will lead a group on a survey of the proposed Pt. Reyes National Park. The trip will involve considerable driving (possibly as much as 100 miles round trip from Kentfield) as we will visit various areas of the proposed park.

Meet at the circle on the campus of the College of Marin on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, Kentfield, at 10 a.m. Louise Million will arrange transportation.

See or Ski in Europe

Kaiser Employees Ski Club announces a fabulous three weeks ski trip leaving San Francisco March 12, 1959. Substantially all inclusive S.F. to S.F. $750; plane ticket (available separately) only $450. Both of these are terrific bargains and if you could possibly make it, we recommend an immediate inquiry for further information to Frances Harbridge, 3572 Monterey Boulevard, Oakland 19.

TCC Meeting September 28

(Continued from Page 4)

Free coffee will be served, starting at noon.

Bootjack Camp may be reached by taking the 8:15 Bolinas bus from the Greyhound Station in San Francisco, which stops at the site, or by hiking from Mill Valley or Mountain Home, by way of the Matt Davis or Troop 80 trails.

-- AR

As Others See Us (ALSO VICE VERSA)

"But I thought Americans never went anywhere except in cars--we never dreamed that they hiked!"

The young fraulein who made this remark is in herself a correction to an American impression of Germany--cameras aren't the nicest things Germany exports!

Geology Knapsack Trip Oct. 10-12

Phil Lydon, a geologist and SC member, has agreed to take knapsackers into Desolation Valley.

We will go past Echo Lake, Echo Peak, Angora Lake, Lily Lake, Lake Gilmore and Mt. Tallac. Phil suggests each person bring a copy of Echo Lake and Emerald Bay quadrangle (purchase at Geological Survey office in S.F.), a pick or hammer, notebook and pencil, handlens or strong magnifying glass and, for those interested in learning fundamentals of geological mapping, a magnetic compass or pocket transit and a 6-inch protractor.

For further information, meeting place and time, rides or riders, call Doug Peterson, MOntrose 1-0072, after 8:30 Tuesday and Thursday nights.

Note: Change on October 18-19 knapsack trip: Ian Begg will lead instead of Doug Peterson.

-- Doug Peterson

Tuolumne Meadows Car Camping

Two hikes on one day--one long and one short--are something of a common-place in Club scheduling. But the opportunity to choose from among six hikes comes a little less often.

However, such a choice was given the 120 car campers who spent the July 4 weekend at Tuolumne Meadows.

Seven hikers, led by Bill Colvig, climbed Mt. Dana, 13,050 feet, the second highest peak in Yosemite, and enjoyed wonderful glissades on the way down. Ivan Tarnowski led a large group cross-country up the ridge behind the camp grounds to a point near Dog Lake. Sidney Lew took a party up Lembert Dome, signed the register, and headed for Dog Lake. The mosquitoes chased them away and they settled for Puppy Lake instead.

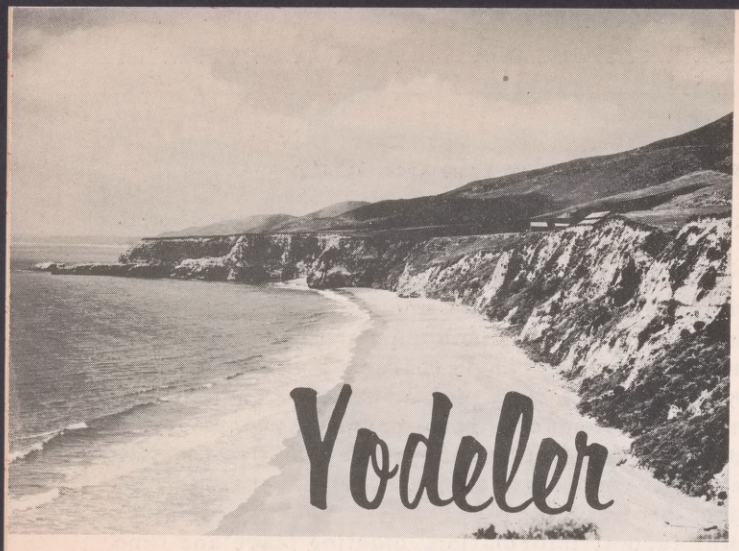
Al Champion led another group to Lembert Dome, while Stan Sklan headed some hikers to Dog Lake. Vivian Tow's followers tried to reach Delaney Creek but followed the wrong trail and landed two miles west of the meadows on Tioga Highway.

Campfires both nights spotlighted unusual programs. On Friday night SC Bulletin editor, Vivian Schagen, talked about that publication, while music in varied forms was provided by George Gerard (accordion), Julie Bidou (guitar) and Bill Colvig (recorder), all aiding the group singing. The next night the Club's Board of Directors - closing a two day meeting at Parsons Lodge - joined the campfire. Dick Leonard described life zones in the Sierra and Dave Brower told how and why club members should show their interest in conservation by writing to their Congressmen on current legislation.

Ivan Tarnowski was trip leader and Art Lampert was chief firebuilder. -- As reported by Vivian Tow

Anyone For Swiss Alps Trail Hiking

Chicago Sierra Club member would like company on her Swiss Alps trip for all or part of summer 1959 (6-7 weeks). No mountain-climbing or camping intended. For further details write Evelyn Davidson, 5631 Kenwood Ave., Chicago 37, Ill.



Point Reyes Natural Science field trip, October 12th. See article on Page 5.

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Ski Tourers, and others

Bradley and Ludlow Huts have been taken care of, but work-party members are needed for Peter Grubb (Sept. 27-28) and for Benson (Oct. 11-12). Plenty to do, the release says it will be fun, and you'll get your weekend working free, and the usual winter priority, etc. For transportation: Betty Klevesahl, 257 Trinity, Berkeley, LAndscape 6-6756, or (days) OLympic 2-3100. For other info: Neal Anderson, 1876 Arch, Berkeley, SUtter 1-7700 days; Bob Frenkel, 1130 Palo Alto Ave., Palo Alto, DAvenport 5-2704 or (days) DAvenport 6-6200.

CHAPTER DAY

This is Chapter Day par excellence! This year we shall include dinner and folk dancing, in addition to a hike and the annual meeting.

Hikers should meet Alan McCharles at our Brazilian Room haunt at 12. Those needing transportation should contact Donna Harvey.

The meeting, which you have all been joyously anticipating for these many weeks, will be held at 3 p.m., at which time you will have an opportunity to meet the notorious candidates for Executive Committee.

Chairman Ned Robinson has not told us what else he has in mind, so the afternoon will probably bring forth some rare surprise.

Dinner (and what a dinner!) will be served at 6 p.m. instead of 6:30, as reported in the schedule. Tickets are $1.00, and reservations should be made by Thursday night, October 2. Tickets can be obtained from Alan McCharles, Hazel Eggett, members of the Executive Committee, Entertainment Committee, East Bay Dinners, and from the Bunnelles.

Following dinner, Edna Spaulding will conduct a superb evening of folk dancing. Coffee and punch will flow freely during the afternoon and evening.

--Hasse Bunnelle

Note: Members interested in cooking, please see me. We need five or six people to assist with Chapter Day Dinner Preparations. Call me evenings except Tuesday and Thursday at OLympic 5-3652.

Natural Science Section Annual Birthday Dinner

Saturday, September 27, 6:30 p.m., Lake Temescal Clubhouse, Oakland.

Theme: An Evening in Hawaii. Island type food.

Entertainment: Charles and Mary Townsend will head the program--Kodachromes of the Hawaiian Islands taken on their recent trip to the Paradise of the Pacific.

Dinner $2.50. Reservations must be accompanied by checks payable to Myra J. Browne, 2435 Ivy Drive, Oakland 6, by Sept. 23. No cancellations after this date, please.

1! 2! 3! HIKE!

The Kickoff Dinner of the Eastbay Dinner season will be Wednesday, Sept. 24 at Willard Jr. High School, Telegraph Ave. and Ward St. in Berkeley. Gather for conversation with friends old and new at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:30. The program, which follows dinner, will feature our own Dave Brower, executive director of the Sierra Club, who will present one of his fine programs on the wilderness wonderland of the Stehekin and Glacier Peak areas in the Northern Cascades. For dinner reservations or further information, call Betty Franklin (OLympic 5-5113) before 10 p.m. September 22.

--Marjorie Lewis

NO SMOKING

If you've got to smoke, you've got to stay away from the Napa county hike September 21. This was the condition on which permission to cross private lands was granted.

The Sierra Club
1050 Mills Tower 220 Bush Street
San Francisco 4, California